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BUILDING PERMITS FOR AUGUST, 1932, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JULY, 1932, AND AUGUST, 1931, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1932.

There was a seasonal decline in the value of the building permits issued during August, 1932, as compared with July, while in comparison with August of last year, there was also a considerable reduction; during the month under review, the 61 co-operating centres authorized building estimated to cost \$3,331,278, as compared with \$4,227,173 in July, 1932, and \$8,201,879 in August, 1931. There was, therefore, a decrease of 21.2 p.c. in the first comparison, and of 59.4 p.c. in the second. The aggregate value of the building authorized in the first eight months of this year, viz., \$30,137,519, was lower than in 1931 and other years of the record; in considering these data, however, it should be noted that there has also been a very significant decline in wholesale costs of building materials, the Bureau's index, based on the 1926 average as 100, having fallen from 156.3 in the first eight months of 1920, to 78.0 in the period, January-August, 1932, or by slightly over 50 p.c.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics showing that they had issued about 300 permits for dwellings estimated to cost over \$900,000, and more than 2,000 permits for other buildings valued at approximately \$2,200,000. During July, authority was granted for the erection of some 450 dwellings and 1,800 other buildings, estimated at about \$1,000,000 and \$3,200,000, respectively.

British Columbia reported a gain of \$420,090, or 138.0 p.c., as compared with July, 1932. Of the reductions elsewhere indicated, that of \$975,131, or 46.0 p.c., in Quebec was greatest.

British Columbia also reported a slightly higher aggregate of building permits issued than in August of last year, there being an increase of \$13,762, or 1.9 p.c. Declines in this comparison were recorded in the remaining provinces, that of \$2,504,798, or 71.9 p.c., in Ontario being most pronounced.

Of the larger cities, Vancouver showed improvement as compared with both July, 1932, and August, 1931, while Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg reported decreases in both comparisons. Of the other centres, Kingston, Peterborough, Walkerville, Woodstock, Lethbridge, Nanaimo and North Vancouver recorded gains in both comparisons.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-32.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 61 cities during August and in the first eight months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first eight months of the years since 1920 are also given (average 1926-100).

1920 are also given (average 1926-100).							
	Value of		Indexes of value	:Average indexes of			
	permits			,:wholesale prices of			
Year :		: issued :	first eight months; building materials in				
	in August	: in first :	(1926 = 100)	:first eight months,			
		: eight months :		:(1926 average =100).			
	\$ 3,331,278	\$30,137,519	27.6	78.0			
1931	8,201,879	78,194,996	71.6	83.4			
1930	14,029,564		105.5	93.4			
1929	21,582,221		154.6	99.6			
1928	17,448,542		133.0	97•5			
1927	29,478,378	126,690,292	116.0	96.8			
1926	11,672,599		100.0	101.7			
1925	9,511,008	88,223,328	80.8	104.3			
1924	9,406,733		74.9	109.1			
1923	11,425,031		89.3	111.7			
1922	18,158,932		96.3	108.4			
1921	10,928,039		71.1	128.6			
1920	10,805,846	86,303,601	79.0	156.3			

The aggregate for the first eight months of this year was less than in earlier years of the record, but as already stated, the average index number of wholesale prices of building materials was also much lower than in any other year of this record.

Table 1 gives the value of building permits issued by 61 cities during July and August, 1932, and August, 1931. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1920 are marked this "x".

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Estimated Cost of Building Work as Indicated by Building Permits issued by 61 Cities.							
0 5. % £ e a	August, 1932	July, 1932	August, 1931				
F.E. I Charlottetown '- Kova Scotta	\$7.335	119,646	326,565				
2 Boulfox	65, 515	3.04, 61.1	274, 365				
Nor Glasgow	530	1,160	350				
of officer	300	33,875	51,150				
New Brunswick	50,81.4 800	37,782	1.70, 570 43, 950				
Eradericton x Monoton	22,675	5,300 58,275	32.335				
x Saint John	27,339	21, 207	94,385				
Quebes	1,145,711	2,120,252	2,500,138				
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	972,710	1,813,782	2,092,913				
Z Queboc Shawinigan Falls	99,291	240, 630 125	251,960 8,760				
x Shorbrooke	32.200	46,300	44.900				
x Three Rivers	8,035	7, 665	28,025				
x Westmount	32,875	11,700	73.550				
Ontario	976,966	1,115,392	3,481.764				
Belleville x Brantford	Nil 991	5,970 13,020	9,600 6,912				
Chathem	1,600	1,785	8.500				
x Fort William	11,850	28,200	10,250				
Gelt	13,870	8,015	19,070				
x Guelph	12,794	8,448	19,1458				
* Hamilton * Kingston	71,800 29,672	186, 700 7, 625	253,500 28,810				
x Kitchener	25,115	2.087	56.935				
x London	26,650	34,845	236,950				
Niagara Falls	900	1,824	6,487				
Oshawa.	500	1,100	20,505				
x (ttawa Ower Sound	74,965 1,475	115,085	165.655				
x Peterborough	99.800	7,991	5,000 20,338				
x Port Arthur	4,780	30,460	17, 761				
* Stratford	5,966	3,973	6, 6+9				
x St. Ossharines	21,790	50,084	32,440				
x St. Thomas Sarnia	1,310 3,607	2,350	1,790				
Sault Ste. Marie	28,631	3,581 13,337	11,503 201,3 ¹ ₁ 5				
x Toronto	381,316	394.054	1,842,807				
York & East York Townships	118,600	115,275	460,777				
Wellend	9,040	2,540	12,990				
x Windsor East Windsor	13,300	65,750 N13	11,235				
Riverside		Nil	2,100 3,280				
Sandwich	p-e	ulp to other salar Opens	3,150				
Walkerville	14,000	1,000	N:3.				
Woodstock Manitoba	12.144	4,193	5,967				
* Brandon	171,465 725	201,525 6,250	253,582 3.752				
St. Boniface	10,240	3,275	21,680				
x Winnipag	160,500	192,000	228,150				
Saskatchewan	36,530	87,686	177.780				
x Moose Jaw x Regina	250 19.045	71,383	2,610				
Saskatoon	17,225	6,508 9,795	64,095 111,075				
Alberta	158,629	190,512	580.904				
x. Calgary	54,941	58,357	203, 15)+				
# Edmonton	76,080	112,395	3/12,8/10				
Lethbridge Medicine Hat	22,258 5,350	8,970 820	14,520				
British Columbia	724,438	304,348	20,390 710,676				
Kamloops	3.055	825	4,983				
Nenaino	3:775	3,250	1.175				
x New Westminster	25.597	17,150	26,050				
Prince Rupert X Vancouver	2,450 633,820	10,1140	16,000				
North Vancouver	36, 655	232, 810 4, 965	571,530 7,830				
z Victoria	29,035	34,908	83,108				
Total - 61 Cities	3,331,278	4,227,173	8,201,879				
* Total - 35 Cities	3.051.447	4,023.323	7,291,967				



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